the Government on their merits. Such suggestions relate to, *inter-alia*, speedy disposal of cases, appointment of Special Judicial Magistrates, creation of Fast Track Courts, establishment of more Family Courts and setting up of tribunals etc. The action taken by the Government have been enumerated in reply to Part (b).

Corruption charges against judicial officers

829. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judicial officers facing charges of misconduct and corruption as on 1st January, 2003; and

(b) the number of judicial officers dismissed/removed for misconduct and corruption during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C.THOMAS): (a) and (b) Under article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of Subordinate Judicial Service vests with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to article 309 read with article 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the State Government frames rules and regulations in consultation with the High Court. As regards action against judicial officers on account of misconduct and corruption, the disciplinary control lies with the concerned High Court. The Central Government, therefore, does not maintain any statistical data on this.

Foreign lawyers to practice in Indian courts

830. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite strong resistance from the Bar Council of India (BCI) Government have expressed their willingness to the World Trade Organisation to allow foreign lawyers to practice in Indian courts on a reciprocal basis under the General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS);

(b) if so, what were the main objections of the Bar Council of India; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C.THOMAS): (a) No, Sir, India has not taken any commitments in Legal Services Sector under the General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS) in the Uruguay Round of negotiations. There is also no proposal for taking commitments duri ıg negotiations under the GATS.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of inland waterways

831. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPI ed to state:

(a) whether Government have received any prop ne States for development of inland waterways after modification in Centrally sponsored scheme last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof specially the proposals received from Maharashtra; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Proposals have been received from various States namely Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The proposals are mainly for preparation of feasibility report, dredging of waterways and setting up of terminals. As regards Maharashtra State, the proposals are for development of inland waterways (including dredging, setting up of terminals/jetties, etc.) at various places. The proposals from Maharashtra have been examined and the State Government has been advised to modify/revise the proposals.